

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

So many programs purporting to be news are merely editorials. The public has the right to be informed when a piece of propaganda is being inserted into programming which would be assumed to be neutral. Additionally, the political party benefitting from this should be made to pay for this advertisement.

Thank you.